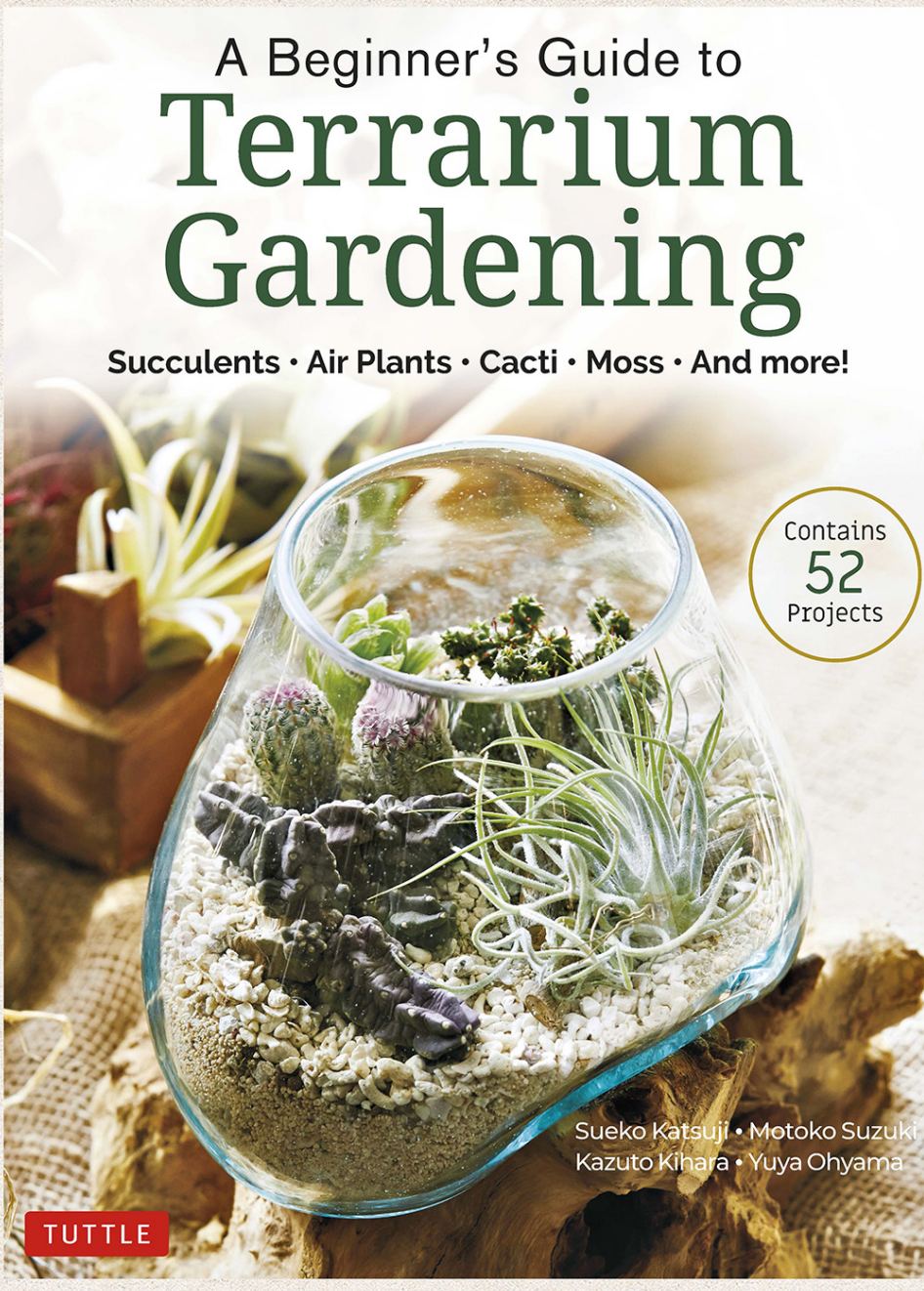
# A Beginner's Guide to Terrarium Gardening

**Succulents • Air Plants • Cacti • Moss • And more!**

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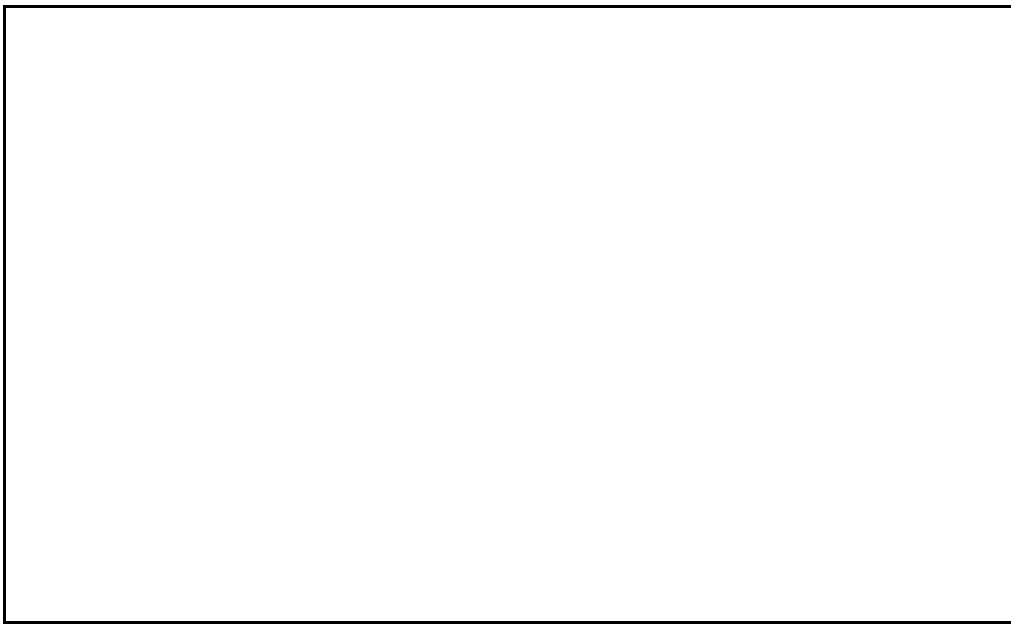

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**Natural stones and crystals**
There are many different natural stones and crystals you can use, from transparent to ones that are purple, green, smoky and more.

**Coral, sea shells, nuts, etc.**
These materials are especially useful for creating seasonal designs. For example, combine coral, seashells, and sand for a summery look.

**Miniature figures**
These tiny figures are used in dioramas. Fix them onto stones, branches or other materials with a glue gun.

# Basi

Here w

**Clean the container**
A dirty container ruins the look of your creation. Before adding anything, make sure to wipe the container clean with a damp cloth.

**Position large items first**
A fundamental rule is to decide on the positions of large objects before you put them in the container. You should also put in the tall or voluminous plants first in order to create a well-balanced composition.

**Tamp down each layer well**
When you want to show off the layers of soil, sand, gravel and so on, make sure to tamp down each layer in the container very well with each addition so that they don't get crooked.

**Make terrariums that can be enjoyed from multiple angles**
Turn the container as you work and arrange the items within. Plants show many different faces depending on whether you look at them from above, diagonally, and so on.

**Adjust the area around the plants very carefully**
When positioning thin or small plants, work very

carefully so as not to damage them. When adding soil or other mediums, make the end of your funnel (see the Tools section) very narrow and add the medium a little at a time so that it does not hit the plant.

Air plant te
P

1 Make the materials and plants (see page 29) ready. We will be using the wire that comes with the Spanish moss.

2 Using a small scoop, put coral sand into the container. The volcanic stone that is used in this example is very tall, so be sure not to add too much coral sand.

3 Position the stones in the middle. Add the larger stone first, then put in the smaller stone so that it is supporting the larger one.

4 Position the air plants—in this case Tillandsia bulbosa, Tillandsia butzii, Tillandsia funckiana and Tillandsia loliacea—in the indentions of the large stone.

5 Wrap the roots of the Tillandsia tectorum with wire, and cut off the ends, leaving them long as shown here.

6 Hook the ends of the wire wrapped around the Tillandsia tectorum in Step 5 onto the wire wrapped around the Spanish moss, and fix in place.

7 Hook the wire wrapped around the Tillandsia tectorum onto the container base.

8 Place the glass container on top of the base in Step 7, taking care not to crush the Tillandsia tectorum.

9 To create the other container, fill with coral sand as with the first container, and position the Banksia, then the Tillandsia xerographica in that order.

Whe
within

1 Make the materials and plants ready (see page 33). Take the moss out of their sealed containers just before planting them to avoid drying them out.

2 Put zeolite in the bottom of the container using a scoop and tamp it down. Add bark chips on top of that layer, and push it to the sides.

3 Add Aqua soil using a funnel. Aim for the center, so that you do not disturb the bark chip layer added in Step 2.

4 Add the stones and moss covered branch to the container, making sure they are placed in a balanced manner.

5 Place the plants in this order: Selaginella remotifolia; Selaginella; Fissidens; Racomitrium japonicum or sunagoke moss; and Leucobryum bowringii Mitt. or mountain moss.

6 Use tweezers to poke the Aqua soil so that the roots are well buried in it. Tidy up the inside of the container.

7 Moisten a piece of wadded-up paper towel, hold it with the tweezers, and wipe off any dirt that has gotten onto the sides of the container.

8 To finish, mist everything in the container to set the plants in place.

9 Put a piece of wax paper on the mouth of the container and tie with a piece of hemp twine. A moss terrarium should be kept sealed with some kind of lid as much as possible.

# Ho

## Succu

1 Assemble the materials (see page 24). Succulents grow at different rates and in different seasons, so select varieties that have similar growing habits.

2 Pour zeolite into the bottom of the container and smooth out the surface by tamping it until it's flat.

3 Add succulent growing medium on top. Adjust the height of the growing medium depending on the height of the other materials.

4 Put the large pumice stone in the center.

5 Position the Seyrigia humbertii behind the stone using tweezers.

6 Position the Lithops (living stones) and Sempervivum (house leeks) in front of the stone with the tweezers. Be careful not to bury the tiny plants.

7 Using the funnel, add some succulent growing medium little by little to fill the gaps and to cover the roots of the plants.

8 Tamp down the soil by poking with the tweezers and make any adjustments if needed.

9 Fill a small container using the same steps. Add zeolite first, then succulent growing medium, stones and

a kiwi vine, then plant the Sansevieria humbertiana and the Mammillaria pectinifera (Solisia pectinata) cactus.

# How

Terrar
inside
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**The Torch**

The interior green design shop Pianta×Stanza (designed and operated b
Ryokuensha Co.) aims to combine house plants with interior design to
new ways of looking at the spaces we inhabit. One of the items they hav
using this concept is the Torch. The distinctive shape of the round cont
which resembles an alcohol lamp, is enhanced by adding a flickering lig
makes it look like there's a flame inside. A rope beneath the kokedama
ball) nestled on top of the container draws water, so that the kokedama
need to be watered frequently by hand. Not only does the Torch look g
practical functionality has also drawn a lot of praise. Try challenging yo
create playful terrariums like this one!

Air plants are a group of plants called Tillandsia, in the Bromeliaceae family (the same as pineapples). They do not need any soil to grow and are characterized by their ability to absorb moisture from the air through their leaves and stems. The fine water-absorbing hairs on air plants are called Trichomes when the air is dry, these stand up to gather the the available moisture from the atmosphere. There are more than 600 varieties of air plants, which are roughly divided into two categories: silver leaf and green leaf. The leaves and stems of the silver leaf types are covered with trichomes while the green leaf types have few trichomes and do not stand dryness very well.

**Tillandsia tectorum**
The most popular type of air plant. The trichome covered leaves seem to sparkle. This is a perfect choice for the focus point of a terrarium.

**Tillandsia caput medusae**
This plant is characterized by dramatic twisting leaves and a bulbous lower part. It can add a fun touch to a terrarium.

**Tillandsia bergeri**
Tillandsia bergeri spreads its abundant strong, spiky leaves in a spiral pattern. This is a plant with lots of presence. It grows easily and propogates in clumps, so you can enjoy seeing it transform.

**Containers**

Choose a container that has a wide opening and is well ventilated. Because air plants aren't too picky about where they are placed, you can try hanging them, or even arrange them so they are sticking out of the container. That's the advantage of using air plants.

**Placement**

You can put an air plant terrarium anywhere you like, as long as it's not in direct sunlight. However, you should avoid putting the terrarium in deep shade, otherwise it may become too humid. Be careful not to let the inside of the container become too humid.

**Watering**

Once or twice a week, mist all the plants generously. In the winter you only need to do this once a week. Always take air plants out of the container before misting them, then shake off any excess water very well before returning them to the container. If you put them back while they are still wet, it will lead to mold and rot.

**Maintenance**

If you think a plant is looking unwell, mist it with liquid fertilizer diluted with water. Air plants don't like cold either, so make sure they are placed in the right temperature.

Mosses grow on old wood, in humid areas, on rocks and so forth. They dislike dryness, and prefer very humid, damp places. There are more than 2,000 varieties of moss in Japan alone, and it's estimated there are around 12,000 worldwide. Mosses do not flower or make seeds; they propogate by releasing spores. When a moss dries out, the surface becomes withered and it looks like it has died, but it's actually very tough. When you give a moss that looks dead plenty of water, more often than not it will come back to life, green and luscious. Hypnum plumaeforme and Leucobryum bowringii Mitt. or mountain moss can be found quite easily at garden centers and home centers; if you can't find them, try looking for similar mosses.

**Leucobryum juniperoideum (smaller white moss)**
Also called mountain moss or steamed bun moss in Japan, this moss has a plump, cushiony look and soft, wavy "hair." It is relatively resistant to drought, and is easy for beginners to grow.

**Rhodobryum (Schimp.) Hampe (big umbrella moss)**
This moss looks like opened up leaves. Its small flower-like appearance is very popular. It can be used in terrariums with small openings.

**Pogonatum contortum (contorted pogonatum moss)**
This is a type of moss that is used in outdoor gardens as well as in terrariums, and is characterized by its straight stems that grow upwards. Try planting them in a long container so that you can enjoy watching them grow.

**Containers**

Choose a container with a lid or a small opening, so that it's easy to maintain the humidity inside. Alternatively, you can make a lid by sealing the opening with wax paper.

**Placement**

Place the container in a location indoors which does not get direct sunlight. Although mosses do well out of sunlight, they will do better if you can put them in a place that does get some light during the day.

**Watering**

If the container is sealed, you just need to water the mosses every three to four days. Mist them generously with a spray bottle. If you have planted them together with succulents or cacti, be careful not to overwater.

**Maintenance**

If you find parts that have gone brown, cut them off with scissors. New moss will grow again from there.

Succulents have thick leaves and stems that are filled with water. Since they mostly grow in dry, often hot climates such as deserts and coastlines, they grow well in low humidity, dry environments. Their cute, fresh and juicy plump appearance makes succulents a very popular plant, and they are often grown in groups. There are a huge variety of succulents, which can be divided into summer, winter and spring-fall types depending on when their growth periods are. When you plant them together, be sure to choose varieties that have the same growth period. Although this depends on each variety, in general succulents should be replanted every 1 to 2 years.

**Haworthias**

Some haworthias have leaves that are stiff and pointy leaves and others that are soft and translucent. The one in this photo is a Haworthia obtusa, which has soft semi-transparent tips. Arrange it so the patterns on the leaves are visible.

**Senecios**

Senecios stand out because of their wonderfully strange and interesting leaves, which come in many shapes. The one here is a Senecio serpens (also called a Curio serpens). It has beautifully plump, long and elongated leaves that have a dusty white hue.

**Aeoniums**

Aeoniums, or tree houseleeks, are characterized by stems that grow straight up. By combining them with kokedama (moss balls), you can emphasize their pretty flower-like shapes.

**Containers**

Select containers that have large openings and are well ventilated. If they like their environment, succulents can grow to be quite large, so try to choose a container with plenty of space for them to grow.

**Placement**

Place in a bright, sunny location indoors with good air flow. Avoid direct sunlight. Winter-type succulents especially dislike high temperatures and humidity, so be careful not to let heat build up within the container.

**Watering**

Succulents grow in dry climates, so be sure not to overwater them. Keep their natural growing seasons in mind and water them once or twice a week during that growing period. Use a watering device with a nozzle, aiming directly at the roots. When they aren't in their active growing periods, you can just water them about once every two weeks. If water pools inside the container, the roots may rot, so soak them up thoroughly.

**Maintenance**

The leaves of succulents may turn brown due to temperature fluctuations. You just need to cut off any brown parts that you see with scissors. Transplant them during their respective growing periods. You can propagate them when transplanting if any pups or small child plants have grown around them. Just take the pups off and plant them on their own.

Cacti, or cactuses, belong to the plant family Cactaceae, and almost all have succulent, water-filled leaves and stems. Although classification varies by method, it's said that there are more than 2,000 varieties of cacti. Because they withstand heat well and don't need much watering, they are ideal plants for beginners.
The main difference between cacti and succulents is that the former have areoles, small bumps from which spines grow, sometimes with a cotton wool-like fluff. Although there are some cactus varieties with no thorns, all cacti have areoles. Cactus spines are very sharp and you may hurt yourself if you handle them with your bare hands. Use long tweezers to plant them in terrariums.

**Containers**

Cacti basically have the same growing requirements as succulents, so select containers with large openings that have good air circulation around the plants. If you are using a container with a lid, make sure to open it occasionally to ventilate it.

**Placement**

Avoid direct sunlight and position cactus terrariums in a bright, well ventilated place indoors. Be especially careful of humidity buildup inside the container if you live in a humid climate or on rainy days.

**Watering**
Water cacti just once every 1–2 weeks, whenever the planting material is dried out. Use a syringe or a watering device with a nozzle to aim the water directly at the roots and avoid wetting the plant itself.

House plants that can be combined with the previous plant types mentioned are recommended for terrariums too. The growing conditions required by house plants vary a lot, but generally speaking many are quite easy to take care of, even for beginners. In this book we have combined ferns with mosses, which both prefer moist conditions and grow on wood, and we've also made the colorful, pretty flowers of Cryptanthus the main feature in a terrarium. Have fun experimenting with the house plants you can find easily at garden or home centers, and arranging them in your terrariums.

**Cryptanthus**

The leaves of this plant grow in a distinct, star-shaped pattern. Enhance its bright colors by using materials with muted tones with it, so that the plant becomes the star of your creation.

**Davallia tyermanii (bear's paw fern, white rabbit's foot fern)**

This is a tropical fern that has serrated leaves that grow upwards, with a fluffy fur covering the rhizotamous roots. Although it's an epiphyte (a plant that grows on other plant material), it can be planted in moist soil too, so feel free to combine it with mosses.

**Muehlenbeckia (wire plant)**

The creeping variety of this plant (also called wire vine) is called Muehlenbeckia axillaris. The wire plant

has many thin, wire-like vines, and lots of volume. It's an ideal plant to use as an accent in a terrarium.

Here w

Although this depends on the types of plants in it, you can typical enjoy a terrarium for 1 to 2 years. If the plants stay healthy, a terrarium can be kept alive for even longer. If the plants grow too big for the container and no longer fit, you can try cutting them back, dividing or replanting them. All this depends on the container you select and where you position them, so try to use a combination of factors that is optimal for the plants you use.
When you are making a terrarium for the first time, air plants, which do not need to be planted in a medium or soil, are the easiest to handle. They aren't at

all picky about the materials they are combined with, and can fit easily into any design. There are many varieties of air plants from which you can choose. They're also really easy to take care of, since you only need to mist them about once or twice a week, which accounts for their popularity.

Many garden centers as well as interior design stores sell glass containers for terrariums these days. These include multi-sided containers that show off the contents, as well as hanging containers. You can of course buy a container specifically meant for terrrariums, but you can also use anything you have on hand such as a glass flower vase, a jar, and so on. If you think your plants don't look too well, observe them carefully to determine the cause. Sometimes plants

get damaged due to temperature changes and wither. In that case, you just need to remove any dead leaves. If the leaves or stems are discolored or rotting, check the roots. If they have turned black, remove the plant.

Terrariums basically do best when placed indoors out of direct sunlight. Depending on the type of plants inside, even a sunny windowsill can be too much and the plants may suffer. Terrariums with air plants, succulents or cacti can be placed in an well ventilated location in the shade outdoors, but the temperature inside the container can build up quite a bit in the summer, so it's best to bring the container indoors in the hot months. Moss grows all over the place in the wild in humid climates, so you can find and gather it in the wild yourself. However, you need to make sure you are allowed to gather moss in a particular location beforehand, and that the moss you are taken is not a protected variety. Even in public areas, often moss gathering is prohibited by law. When gathering moss,

use a spatula or a hand trowel to scoop it up gently, and take it home in a covered plastic container.

When you want to create a naturalistic design, use natural materials such as driftwood, stones and pebbles, sand and so on. When you want to do something a bit different, try anything that appeals to you such as bits of newspaper. To create a seasonal feel, use sea shells and coral in the summer, or dry branches and dried cotton flowers and in the winter. You can also have fun adding miniature figures to create stories within your containers too.

Terrariums are very popular as presents for anniversaries, or any special occasion. When creating a terrarium as a gift, use plants that are easy to care for such as air plants and mosses. Including flowering plants like Tillandsia ionantha is sure to be a hit too. Don't forget to gift wrap the

terrarium. Besides using paper, you can put the terrarium in a special box, or wrap it in clear cellophane and tie it with a bow so the contents are visible.

Simple hanging cylindrical containers contain Tillandsia air plants and soft, gentle curly moss contrasting with the spiky round shapes of Datura metal seed capsules. The contrasting textures of the dried plant material is a perfect foil for the green of the tillandsias.

## Container

Outer diameter: 4½" (12 cm)
Height: 6⅔" (17 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Line the bottom of the container with a fluffy layer of curly moss.

**2.** Stack up 3 datura capsules to add height.

**3.** Position the Tillandsia tricholepis and the Tillandsia caput-medusae, in that order.

## Creation/Care Tips

Combine air plants with dried flower elements for a terrarium with a playful feel. The spiky seed capsules of the Datura metal are very distinctive.

A

Five types of mosses are laid out in a compact glass jar. In order to avoid it becoming too crowded and messy looking, stones and twigs are added judiciously as accents. Using pine tree bark and bark chips is another good way of balancing out the landscape within the jar.

## Container

Outer diameter: 5½" (14 cm)
Height: 7⅞" (20 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Put enough zeolite in to cover the bottom of the jar.

**2.** Put the bark chips and pine bark in the bottom and on the sides of the jar.

**3.** Add Aqua soil to the center of the jar.

**4.** Arrange the stones and twigs in a well balanced way.

**5.** Put in the fern, then add the mosses in this order: , , and .

## Creation/Care Tips

If you put a lot of plants in a small container, it will inevitably get crowded as they grow. Keep trimming them back to keep them looking attractive.

Glass cases framed with wood make any plant look stylish. Because they are easy to handle, you can place them anywhere. Here two cases are used in different sizes, each with similarly themed terrariums inside and displayed side to side. The succulents and cacti peeking out of the generous amount of soil are very cute and seen together they look like framed pictures.

## Container

**Tall**
About 5″ (13 cm) x 5″ (13 cm) x 10¼″ (26 cm)
**Small**
About 5″ (13 cm) x 5″ (13 cm) x 6¼″ (16 cm)

**Instructions** on page 10.

## Creation/Care Tips

Keep the terrariums out of direct sunlight. Water about once every two weeks, aiming the water directly at the roots and trying not to make the leaves wet.

Although flasks are associated with lab experiments, they make very attractive terrarium containers. The bright green Rhodobryum giganteum (rose moss) may look quite plain, but as its Japanese name "Umbrella Moss" indicates, the leaves look like open umbrellas and are very pretty. Try placing this terrarium in your bedroom or study, somewhere where you want to relax.

## Instructions

**1.** Put in enough zeolite to cover the bottom of the flask.

**2.** Add about ⅓ inch (1 cm) of bark chips.

**3.** Pour in Aqua soil, aiming for the center as much as possible.

**4.** Plant the moss into the Aqua soil using tweezers.

## Creation/Care Tips

Make sure to plant the Rhodobryum giganteum moss roots firmly into the Aqua soil.

# A Styl

A bouquet that combines both dried plants and succulents is enclosed in a simple glass container for a refined, distinct look. The texture of succulents matches well with wild dried plants, so by combining them you can achieve some dramatic effects. The key is to vary the height of the plants to create an interesting shape.

## Container

Outer diameter: 6" (15 cm)
Height: 15¾" (40 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Gather the succulents, cactus and dried flowers together in a bouquet.

**2.** Tie with the twine, and put into the container.

## Creation/Care Tips

When grafting a branch or stem onto another plant, make sure to do it on
from the same family. In this case both echeverias and kalanchoes are in th
-sulaceae family. Kalanchoe daigremontiana "fushicho" grows fast, so whe
reaches the right length, cut off the leaves and use as the graft. Cut the en
stem diagonally to expose a large surface and tie it securely to the plant you want to graft it onto. Grafts should be done when the plants are in their growing season.

# Char

Your eye is drawn to the Tillandsia baileyi “Halley’s Comet” first in this rounded flower vase. If you arrange the air plants to emphasize their different heights, the entire landscape will come to life. Add even more character and take the design to another level with hemp twine and a decorative piece of newspaper.

## Container

Outer diameter: about 9½” (24 cm)
Height: 10¼” (26 cm)

## Instructions

1. Put wood chips in the bottom of the container.
2. Position the coral.
3. Plant the tillandsias in the order they are listed.
4. Add a piece of newspaper as a decoration.
5. Wrap and tie the twine around the containers.

## Creation/Care Tips

Because of the container’s narrow mouth and wide, bottom-heavy shape, if you leave it in direct sun -light the temperature inside may become too high, so be careful.

Terrariums in small bottles can be hung near a window, placed on bookshelves and more. They are a great way to add a little something extra to your interior decor. Place the Pogonatum cirratum so that it is leaning against the side of the bottle, and adjust the branches so that each one is just a bit different in height, to give the plant an elegant presence.

## Instructions

**1.** Put in enough zeolite to cover the bottom of the container.
**2.** Add a little Iceland moss.
**3.** Pour in about ⅓ inch (1 cm) of bark chips.
**4.** Add about 1⅓ inches (3 cm) of Aqua soil.
**5.** Plant the moss plants in the order listed.
**6.** Put on the bottle stopper, pass the twine through it, and hang the bottle up.

## Creation/Care Tips

When the container you are using for your terrarium has a narrow opening, using long wire and tweezers makes planting easier.

## Container

About 3″ (8 cm) W x 1″ (3 cm) D x 9″ (23 cm) H

Distinctive containers with rusted iron bases are filled with a dramatic arrangement of materials. If you match the rugged stone with tillsandrias that have thin, delicate leaves, and the long banksia with thicker-leaved ones, each element will balance each other out well. Trail some Spanish moss under the container for an even more dramatic look.

## Containers

**Tall container**
Outer diameter: 6″ (15 cm)
Height: 25½″ (65 cm)

## Small container

Outer diameter: 6″ (15 cm)
Height: 12¾″ (32.5 cm)

**Instructions** on page 8.

## Creation/Care Tips

When you use non-plant materials in a dramatic way, the design can easily become unbalanced. To avoid this, put the materials in first, and then choose the right plants for the space.

Distinctive succulents, cacti and and an air plant are arranged together
this expressive terrarium. The container is chosen for its interesting an
design. The pink and purple tinged leaves of the Haworthia cooperi giv
warm, soft feeling.

## Container

About 9½″ (24 cm) W x 7″ (18 cm) D x
9″ (23 cm) H

## Instructions

**1.** Put in enough zeolite to cover the bottom of the container.

**2.** Add a little La Planta sand.

**3.** Position the branch.

**4.** Add the first 4 plants listed in that order in a well-balanced arrangement.

**5.** Position the Tillandsia kolbii in an empty space.

**6.** Add coral sand around the plants to fix them into place.

## Creation/Care Tips

Succulents and cacti do not have the same watering needs as air plants. To water the air plant, take it out of the container first.

# A

When making a terrarium in a simple hanging bottle, try challenging yourself to create a design with lots of movement. The key to this desig the dynamic shapes of the Rhipsalis Ewaldiana and the driftwood. This terrararium with driftwood rising out of it is sure to brighten up any sp

## Container

Outer diameter: 4" (10 cm)
Height: 8" (20 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Put the zeolite in the bottom of the container.
**2.** Add about ⅓ inch (1 cm) of wood chips.
**3.** Put in a ⅓ inch (1 cm) layer of Iceland moss.
**4.** Put the plants in in the order listed and plant them.
**5.** Pour in some succulent medium using a funnel around the plants and tamp it down carefully.
**6.** Position the driftwood.
**7.** Wrap the twine around the bottle several times, and hang it up.

## Creation/Care Tips

If you plan to add the driftwood after you have put in the plants, make sure you leave enough space for it.

# Til

The wood-framed showcase container and thick branches give this terr
star of the show is a Tillandsia caput-medusae, which got its name from
creature Medusa, whose snake-hair the leaves are thought to resemble.
creates an illusion of movement, to make it look as though it is fighting

## Container

About 16" (41 cm) W x 8¼" (21 cm) D x
10" (25 cm) H

## Instructions

**1.** Line the bottom of the container with La Planta sand. The key is to give the surface some hills and valleys instead of flattening it evenly.

**2.** Place the branch in a well-balanced way.

**3.** Add the Tillandsia caput-medusae, then the Tillandsia caerulea, followed by the Tillandsia ionantha Fuego and finally the Tillandsia chusgonensis.

## Creation/Care Tips

Place the large wood piece first, then add the air plants in between the branches.

# A

Planted with 5 different types of mosses and ferns that all have distinct
characteristics, this is a terrarium that is full of life. By adding some mo
branches and stones, it looks as if it were cut right out of a forest scene.
want to enjoy this terrarium daily and take care of the plants, we recom
placing it on a window sill or another place that you will frequently pas

## Container

Outer diameter: 6¼" (16 cm)
Height: 12" (31 cm)

**Instructions** on page 9.

## Creation/Care Tips

Cover the opening of the jar with wax paper to keep in the humidity. If any of the leaves go brown, cut them off with scissors and new leaves will grow from there.

# A S

This is a house-shaped terrarium that you could put somewhere it's easily seen like an entryway or living room. If you examine the unique looks of each moss or fern you choose, such as the variety of shapes and how green the leaves are, and place each one thoughtfully, you can create a dreamlike landscape within that compliments the eye-catching shape of the container. Use items like branches and stones to create a bold arrangement.

## Instructions

**1.** Place the coral stones so that they are distributed in a balanced manner.

**2.** Add enough zeolite to cover the bottom of the container.

**3.** Add about 2 inches (5 cm) of Aqua soil.

**4.** Place the moss-covered branch.

**5.** Put in the plants in this order: , , , and .

## Creation/Care Tips

The key to landscaping a large container as a terrarium is how you use the non-plant materials. Use the stones and branches wisely, as if you

were creating a small landscape, then fill in between them with the plants. Consider the shapes and colors of the leaves as you arrange the plants.

### Container

About 12" (30 cm) W x 13" (32 cm) D x 13" (32 cm) H

# Strik

Cacti and succulents work really well in vintage-style containers. Emphasize the shapes of each plant to create this rather wild-looking terrarium. Since it's simple to take care of, you can enjoy it throughout your living space.

## Container

9″ (23 cm) W x 4¾″ (12 cm) D x 7″ (18 cm) H

## Instructions

**1.** Put in enough zeolite to cover the bottom of the container.

**2.** Line with a layer of Iceland moss.

**3.** Position the plants in this order: , , , then .

**4.** Add succulent growing soil or medium around the plants, and settle them in.

## Creation/Care Tips

Keep the terrarium out of direct sunlight and be careful of moisture buildup. After watering, leave the lid open for a while to air out the container.

A fun collection of cacti that looks like a box of sweet treats. Pack in a l
plants in the square container for a festive, colorful look. Add natural, u
stones in various colors in the spaces left over, to create a rhythm of col

## Container

4¾" (12 cm) square

## Instructions

**1.** Put the gravel in the bottom of the container.

**2.** Arrange the cacti, starting with the largest ones, and going in size order.

**3.** Position the natural stones in between the cacti.

**4.** Slowly and carefully pour the zeolite around the plants, using a funnel.

## Creation/Care Tips

Be careful not to tip over any of the numerous cacti when you pour in the zeolite.

# Octago

These octagonal hanging terrariums are filled with red and yellow moon cacti that contrast with the cute dots and stripes on the containers. Moon cacti are also called "candle cacti." Try these as hanging ornaments in a kitchen or living room.

## Container

3" (8 cm) W x 11½" (29 cm) H

## Instructions

**1.** Put the gravel in the bottom of the container.

**2.** Position the cactus.

**3.** Pour zeolite slowly and carefully around the cactus using a funnel.

## Creation/Care Tips

Either hang the container up or put it into a heavy container that can hold it securely in place while working on it.

# An

A pretty hanging terrarium that looks a little like soap bubbles swaying gently in the breeze. Plant the hanging Senecio rowleyanus (string of pearls) succulent so that it looks like it's spilling out of the container for a breezy, cool look. Accessorize the terrarium with sea shells in the summer and nuts or acorns in the fall to create a seasonal design.

## Instructions

1. If using Nelsol, add water to it and knead it like clay or dough.
2. Form pellets with the kneaded Nelsol, and put them in a flat layer in the container.
3. Arrange the plants.
4. Add more Nelsol pellets a little at a time around the plants.
5. Pass a leather cord through the upper part of the container and hang up to display.

## Container:

Diameter: 4" (10 cm)

# Mod

Two multi-angled containers, one large and one small, are displayed together, created as distinct but similarly-themed terrariums. They flow together to create an a fun look. By putting low-growing plants in the smaller container, which is positioned to the front, and taller plants and objects in the larger one, the sloping "ground" is emphasized and is beautifully matched. Let the plants in the foreground spill out a bit to expand the landscape even more.

## Containers

**Large**
8½" (21.5 cm) W x 9½" (24 cm) H
**Small**
6" (15 cm) W x 7⅞" (20 cm) H

## Instructions

**Large container**

1. Position the cereus cactus.
2. Pour the zeolite in slowly and carefully.
3. Position the tillandsia and driftwood.

**Small container**

1. Pour zeolite into the container.
2. Position the rhypsalis and natural stones.

## Creation/Care Tips

Be careful not to add too much zeolite, and make sure it doesn't spill out of the container.

Two footed containers, one large and one small, are filled with breezy air plants and mosses, and displayed together to depict a summertime riverbed scene. The more they grow, the more festive the abundant vines and tiny leaves of wire plants look, brightening the space they occupy.

## Containers

**Large container**
6″ (15 cm) W x 3″ (7.5 cm) D x 6″ (15 cm) H
**Small container**
4″ (10 cm) W x 2.5″ (5.5 cm) D x 4″ (10 cm) H

## Instructions

**Large container**

1. Put the gravel in the bottom of the container.
2. Position the wire plants, and add the potting soil (medium).
3. Put in the stone.

**Small container**

1. Put the gravel in the bottom of the container.
2. Pour the zeolite in gently, then the potting soil (medium).
3. Put in the moss.
4. Attach the minature figures to the stones with a glue gun or instant glue. Position the stones.

A refreshing green collection of succulents that looks like a salad. Arrange the plants that grow vertically like the Kalanchoe marnieriana and Sedum allantoides in the back, make the showy Echeveria prelinze the central focus, and fill the foreground with the trailing string of pearls plant for a cohesive design.

## Container

4¾" (12 cm) square

## Instructions

**1.** Put the gravel in the bottom of the container.

**2.** Position the plants.

**3.** Gently pour in the zeolite.

## Containers

**Large container**
Outer diameter: 3½" (9 cm)
Height: 6⅔" (17 cm)
**Small container**
Outer diameter: 3⅓" (8.5 cm)
Height: 5½" (14 cm) high

## Instructions

**1.** Put about ⅓ inch (1 cm) of gravel in the bottom of the jar.

**2.** Add zeolite to reach halfway up the jar.

**3.** Position the shorter cacti first, and add more zeolite to create a slope.

**4.** Arrange the stone, coral and preserved moss.

## Creation/Care Tips

Turn the lights on at night for a stylish ambience. When cacti are lit up, they appear to give off a warm, relaxing glow. When the jars aren't lit, leave the lids open so that they get as much air as possible.

This terrarium combines Haworthia obtusa, which looks like a collecti
-translucent shiny stones, and red-tinged Sedum rubrotinctum (jelly b
terrarium that looks like a jewelry box. Put it in an airy location to enj
plays on these pretty plants.

## Instructions

**1.** Put gravel in the bottom of the container.

**2.** Position the succulents and gently pour in the zeolite.

**3.** Arrange the natural stone.

## Creation/Care Tips

Position the taller plant in the back for better balance. It's a good idea to plan where the crystal should go before you position the plants.

# Ar

These elegant stained glass footed trapezoidal containers are filled with colorful succulents, white quartz and a sea shell to evoke a beach scene. Display them in a well-lit place to emphasize the blue and yellow colors created by the glass, as well as the summery design.

## Containers

4¾" (12 cm) W at the widest point, 2" (5.5 cm) D, 4¾" (12 cm) H

## Instructions

1. Put the gravel in the bottom.
2. Position the succulents and gently pour in the HydroBalls.
3. Arrange the sea shell and quartz.

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## Containers

Outer diameter: 6" (15 cm)
Height: 5" (13 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Knead the Nelsol with water.
**2.** Pour the zeolite into the container and line with a flat layer of Nelsol balls.
**3.** Position the Aeonium sedifolium.
**4.** Roll more Nelsol into small balls and add to the container. Arrange the eucalyptus.
**5.** Put in the preserved moss. Glue the miniature figures to the stones and position them in the container.

Three terrariums created in long, narrow flower vases each contain a cactus-like Myrtillocactus geometrizans, a thin, white Euphorbia mammillaris “Variegata,” and a cute Opuntia microdasys (bunny ears cactus) respectively. Lined up on a window sill or a shelf, the uniqueness of each cactus is hightlighted, creating a really fun display.

## Containers

Outer diameter: 1¾” (4.5 cm)
Height: 8” (20 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Knead the Nelsol with water, and wrap it around the roots of each plant.

**2.** Put the fine and medium gravel in the first container, position the Myrtillocactus geometrizans, and pour zeolite around it using a funnel.

**3.** Fill the second container in the same way with the gravel, position the Euphorbia mammillaris, and pour zeolite around it using a funnel.

**4.** Fill the second container in the same way with the gravel, position the bunny ears cactus, and fill in around the plant with Nelsol balls.

# A Strikin

The Paphiopedilum or Venus slipper orchid is popular for its strange flower that looks like a carnivorous plant. Here it's planted in a large glass case with polka dots that match the black dots on the flower petals. Place this dramatic terrarium, which highlights the exotic flower within, in a room where people gather, like a living room, for a contemporary look.

## Container

9⅞" (25 cm) W x 4¾" (12 cm) D x 18" (46 cm) H

## Instructions

**1.** Pour the gravel into the bottom of the container.

**2.** Place the orchid in the container, pot and all.

**3.** Add the large HydroBalls, followed by the small Hydroballs, until the pot is hidden.

## Creation/Care Tips

Keep the orchid in its pot so that it can be taken out and repotted easily. Coordinate the dots on the petals with the dots on the container.

Choose a container with some height to display a tall, slim cactus. By combining the tall cactus with round, short cacti, as well as adding planting materials up to about half the height of the container, the finished display will be well balanced.

## Container

4″ (10 cm) W x 3″ (8 cm) D x 8¼″ (21 cm) H

## Instructions

**1.** Line the bottom of the container with the pumice stones.

**2.** Position the cacti and the driftwood. Add the cactus-growing medium of your choice.

**3.** Put bark chips around the plants.

**4.** Put in the coconut fiber ball.

## Creation/Care Tips

When handling the cacti, use chopsticks or tweezers so you don't stick yourself with the spines. Position the plant while keeping an eye on how they are balanced with each other. Fill the container about halfway full with the base material (the stones and the growing medium) for a well-balanced look.

Ex

## Containers (3)

Outer diameter: 3½" (9 cm)
Height: 5½" (14 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Put the wood chips in the bottom of each container.

**2.** Lightly gather the coconut fiber into balls with your hands, and put one into each jar.

**3.** Add the tree nuts, dried flowers and preserved moss.

**4.** Position the air plants in each jar.

This is an abundant terrarium packed with several dried plant materials and a Tillandsia brachycaulos air plant. When using lots of materials in a terrarium, make sure they aren't all the same height. Arrange them so the back of the terrarium is higher than the front for a stylish finish.

## Container

Outer diameter: 3½" (9 cm)
Height: 5½" (14 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Put the wood chips in the jar.

**2.** Lightly gather the coconut fiber into balls with your hands, and put one into each jar.

**3.** Add the tree nuts, dried flowers and preserved moss, keeping an eye on how well balanced the items are.

**4.** Position the Tillandsia brachycaulos.

Even an empty food jar can become a stylish terrarium container when you wrap it with hemp twine. This is a lively terrarium that looks as if the cactus has grown right out of it. Since the container is so simple, choose a larger cactus to create impact.

### Containers (2)

Outer diameter: 1¾" (4.5 cm)
Height: 2½" (6.5 cm)

### Instructions

**1.** Wrap the twine several times around the mouth of the jars.

**2.** Fill the jars about half full with the cactus-growing medium of your choice.

**3.** Position the cacti in each jar, and fill any gaps with more cactus-growing medium.

Make a simple terrarium using a cup you already have in your home. Here we've chosen some colorful dried fruit slices to complement the light green color of the Tillandsia paleacea major. Hang the terrarium with a hemp twine macramé hanger, or just display it on a table.

## Container

Outer diameter: 3" (8 cm)
Height: 3½" (9 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Fill the bottom of the cup with cedar wood balls
**2.** Add the dried fruit slices.
**3.** Position the Tillandsia paleacea major.

For these simple cacti in beakers, we have used HydroBalls, which are round clay balls, as the growing medium. HydroBalls look cleaner and prettier than other mediums, and are perfect for use in glass containers. Coffee bean shaped garden picks are great accessories here.

## Containers

**Small**
Outer diameter: 2⅔" (6.7 cm)
Height: 3½" (9 cm)
**Medium**
Outer diameter: 3" (7.8 cm)
Height: 4" (10.5 cm)
**Large**
Outer diameter: 3⅔" (9.2 cm)
Height: 4⅗" (12.1 cm)

## Extra-large

Outer diameter: 4" (10 cm)
Height: 7⅔" (19.5 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Fill the beakers about ⅓ full with the HydroBalls.
**2.** Position the cacti, and add more HydroBalls around them.
**3.** Add some wood chips.
**4.** Decorate with coconut fiber balls, coffee bean picks, leather picks and and so on to your taste.

## Creation/Care Tips

As with other growing mediums, HydroBalls

should dry out thoroughly before watering them until they are evenly moist. Overwatering may lead to root rot, so be careful.

# A Mys

This magical terrarium is centered by a volcanic rock surrounded by 5 different types and shapes of cacti plus a piece of quartz. Since each item is distinctive, use cacti that are all quite short for a uniform look. This should become a decorative centerpiece in your home.

## Container

Outer diameter: 6" (15 cm)
Height: 9" (23 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Line the bottom of the container with the pumice stones.

**2.** Decide on the positions of the cacti and the driftwood. Add the cactus-growing medium to the container and position the cacti and driftwood.

**3.** Add some more pumice in the gaps.

**4.** Position the volcanic stone and the quartz.

# Succulen

## Containers

**Small**
Outer diameter: 3⅔" (9.2 cm)
Height: 4⅗" (12.1 cm)
**Medium**
Outer diameter: 3" (7.7 cm)
Height: 6" (15 cm)
**Large**
Outer diameter: 4" (10 cm)
Height: 7⅔" (19.5 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Put wood packing material in the bottom of each beaker.

**2.** Form the coconut fiber into soft balls and add to the beakers.

**3.** Put in dried flowers, tree nuts, curly moss and preserved moss.

**4.** Position the air plants in the order listed in the large, medium and small beakers.

A fun terrarium that looks like the cacti are comparing each other's heights. By putting the smallest ones in the foreground and the taller ones in the mid-ground and back, you can give the landscape depth. The key is to put the volcanic rock in the background and the amethyst in a prominent location.

## Container

Outer diameter: 7″ (18 cm)
Height: 7½″ (19 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Put the pumice stones in the bottom of the container.

**2.** Position the cacti and the driftwood, and add the cactus growing medium.

**3.** Add more pumice stones and the volcanic rock.

**4.** Put the amethyst in the foreground.

One of the great things about terrariums that you can use any materials you like to decorate them. Here we have created a playful design by using denim scraps and leather picks in combination with the plants. Try placing this terrarium in an entranceway to greet guests as they enter your home.

## Container

Outer diameter: 3½" (9 cm)
Height: 5½" (14 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Put the white sand in the bottom of the container.

**2.** Position the driftwood, sea shell, denim ball and leather picks in a well balanced manner.

**3.** Position the air plants.

# Dri

This beautifully curved glass jar is filled with an especially luxuriantly decorated arrangement. Dried flowers are used in abundance to emphasize the undulating move -ments of the driftwood and Tilland -sia caput-medusae. This refined terrarium is perfect for decorating a space where guests mingle.

## Container

Outer diameter: 8¼" (21 cm)
Height: 21⅔" (55 cm)

## Instructions

1. Put the preserved moss in the bottom of the container.
2. Position the driftwood branch.
3. Add coconut fiber, dried flowers and curly moss over the driftwood branch.
4. Position the air plants in the center.

## Creation/Care Tips

When decorating a large container like this, make sure that the design doesn't become lopsided. Aim for positioning shorter elements in the front and taller ones in the middle and back.

# Air

Air plants such as Tillandsia ionantha and Tillandsia brachycaulos, with their beautiful leaves, are all-around all stars who play well with any kind of materials. Try arranging them with materials such as pine cones and tree nuts for an autumn-themed combination. Brown tree nuts go well with red-hued dried flowers.

## Container

**Small**
Outer diameter: 3½" (9 cm)
Height: 4⅓" (11 cm)
**Medium**
Outer diameter: 3½" (9 cm)
Height: 5½" (14 cm)
**Large**
Outer diameter: 3½" (9 cm)
Height: 6⅔" (17 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Put the bark chips in the bottom of the container.
**2.** Lightly form the coconut fiber into a ball and put into the container.
**3.** Arrange the tree nuts, dried flowers, curly moss and twigs in the container, with an eye towards balance.
**4.** Position the air plants.

# Beakers

## Instructions

**1.** Put the wood packing materials in the bottom of the container.

**2.** From the coconut fiber into a ball and put into the container.

**3.** Add the preserved moss, dried flowers, curly moss and tree nuts and cones.

**4.** Position the air plants.

# Co

Terrarium materials are not limited to plants, stones and branches. If you look around, you can find that there is an abundance of materials you can use. By varying the items you add to a terrarium according to the season, you can enjoy them throughout the year even more.

For example, in the fall you can collect pine cones and acorns that have fallen to the ground. In the summer you can gather sea shells, and in the winter try using wintry looking dried flowers and plants, which you can make yourself by hanging plants upside down or drying them in silica gel. Brightly colored preserved flowers can easily add a springtime mood to your terrariums and go well with light colored wood chips.

By using materials you have collected yourself in your terrariums, they can evoke happy memories whenever you see them.

## Container

Outer diameter: 3¾″ (6.5 cm)
Height: 5½″ (14 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Pour about 1⅓ inches (3 cm) of sand into the container.

**2.** Position the succulent, and pour more sand around it.

**3.** Surround the succulent with pebbles.

## Container

Outer diameter: 5½" (14 cm)
Height: 7⅞" (20 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Put a ⅓ inch (1 cm) layer of gravel in the bottom of the container.

**2.** Put in about 1⅓ inches (3 cm) of combined clay pellets and growing medium.

**3.** Position the fern and the ficus.

**4.** Lay the moss around the foot of the fern.

**5.** Add more growing medium up to the level of the roots of the moss.

## Creation/Care Tips

Arrange the moss so that it looks as if it's pouring over the ground.

# Fer

The feathery, breezy leaves of the asparagus fern and the cute round leaves of the million hearts plants are the main features of this terrariu The moss is used to create a natural-looking landscape, using large and small leaved parts. This is a very comforting terrarium to gaze at. You c also switch out the miniature figures as the plants grow.

## Container

Outer diameter: 4" (10 cm)
Height: 6" (15 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Moisten the sphagnum moss, and put about a ¾ to 1 inch (2 cm) layer in the bottom of the container.

**2.** Position the asparagus fern. Gently shake the soil clinging to the root off, wrap the roots in some moistened sphagnum moss, and plant.

**3.** Plant the succulent in the same way.

**4.** Spread out the moss on the ground.

**5.** Glue the miniature figures onto round wood chips cut in half using a glue gun. Bury the wood chips with the figures in the moss to fix them in place.

## Creation/Care Tips

Instead of just laying the moss evenly, try selecting bits that have different heights to give a flow to the design and make it look like a mountain landscape inside.

## Containers (each)

3″ (8 cm) W x 3″ (8 cm) D x 2¾″ (7 cm) H

## Instructions

1. Fill the bottom of the containers with gravel or sand.
2. Position the succulents and add gravel or sand around them.
3. Layer the moss into the C container only.
4. Add pebbles around the succulents.

## Instructions

**1.** Put about ⅓ inch (1 cm) of gravel in the container.

**2.** Position the Cryptanthus and push the roots into the gravel slightly using tweezers. Add another ⅓ inch (1 cm) of gravel to finish.

## Creation/Care Tips

If the leaves of the Cryptanthus spread out too much they may get damaged by the sides of the container. It's a good idea to cut off the larger lower leaves before putting the plant in the container.

# Mi

## Containers

**Large** 2¾" (7 cm) square
**Small** 2⅓" (6 cm) square

## Instructions

**1.** Put about ⅓ inch (1 cm) each of sand and stones to each container.

**2.** Add some growing medium to the small container only.

**3.** Add gravel to both containers, and position the succulents.

**4.** Add some stones around the sides of the containers a few at a time.

Three succulents with different leaf shapes are planted together in this terrarium. There are so many different shapes and colors of succulents you can have fun choosing the ones that speak to you. Plant them together quite closely so that the design always looks interesting.

## Container

Outer diameter: 2½" (6.5 cm)
Height: 5½" (14 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Put some clay pellets in the bottom of the container.

**2.** Position the succulents, and add more clay pellets around them.

**3.** Add the pumice stones.

## Instructions

**Containers B, C and D**

**1.** Add the sand, gravel and pebbles in the containers in layers.

**2.** Put moistened sphagnum moss into containers B and C only.

**3.** Lay in the Leucobryum juniperoideum moss.

**4.** Glue the miniature figures onto pebbles or tree branches.

**5.** When you want to stand up a minature figure in the moss, fix the feet with wire.

**6.** Fix the Leucobryum juniperoideum moss in place with wire.

## Container A

**1.** Put clay pellets, gravel and bark chips in the container.

**2.** Glue the miniature figures onto pieces of bark chip, and fix in place.

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## Containers (2)

Outer diameter: 2¾" (7 cm)
Height: 2¾" (7 cm)

## Instructions

**Container A**

1. Put sand in the bottom of the container.
2. Add gravel and plant the and succulents.
3. Add pebbles in the spaces around the plants.

## Container B

1. Put sand in the bottom of the container.
2. Add gravel and plant the and succulents.
3. Layer the "ground" with moistened Leucobryum juniperoideum (moss).
4. Affix the miniature figures into the moss with wire (see page 69).

# R

Air plants are positioned on top of layers of pebbles and gravel along w
to create desert and seashore scenes. Add clay pellets and growing med
for an even more natural look. Position air plants above and below the
the tall driftwood in a trapezoidal shape for a balanced look.

## Containers (2)

Outer diameter: 5½" (8.5 cm)
Height: 7½" (19 cm)

## Instructions

**Container A**

1. Put about 2 inches (5 cm) of pebbles in the bottom of the container.
2. Fix the driftwood in place by burying it a bit in the pebbles.
3. Hang the air plants under the driftwood or between its branches.

**Containers B**

1. Put about ⅓ inch (1 cm) of gravel in the bottom of the container.
2. Add layers of pebbles, then growing medium. Each layer should be about ¾ inch (2 cm) deep.
3. Add about ⅓ inch (1 cm) of clay pellets, then some more gravel.
4. Fix the driftwood in place by burying it a bit.
5. Position the air plants under the driftwood.

## Container

Outer diameter: 4" (10 cm)

## Instructions

**1.** Shake the soil off the roots of the Aeonium arboreum and wrap them in some moistened sphagnum moss.

**2.** Press the sphagnum moss a little to form a ball and wrap with thread (or thin wire) several times.

**3.** Wrap the sphagnum moss ball with Leucobryum juniperoideum moss. Wind with string to form a kokedama (moss ball).

**4.** Thread fishing line through the middle of the kokedama vertically. Pass the fishing wire through the 2 holes in the container to fix in place.

**5.** Pass twine through the top of the container and hang at the height you desire.

## Container

2⅓" (6 cm) wide x 2⅓" (6 cm) deep x
2" (5 cm) high

## Instructions

**1.** Put sand in the bottom of the container.

**2.** Position the Crassula.

**3.** Add some more sand to firmly fix the plant into place.

**4.** Layer the ground with moistened Leucobryum juniperoideum moss.

**5.** Position the sphagnum moss, twigs and Spanish moss in that order. Push the sphagnum moss firmly in place by poking it with tweezers. Bury the twigs securely in the gravel too.

**6.** Fix the figures in place by wrapping fine wire around the feet and sticking the wire into the sand (see page 69). Glue the ducks onto a wooden base, then place on the sand.

Here are some of t

**Tillandsia tectorum**
This air plant has thin leaves that grow in a spiral, which make them look like pom poms. The silvery white hair that grows on the leaves are called trichomes and help the plant to draw in moisture from the air. There are varieties that grow to about 6 inches in diameter, and ones that grow up to 2 feet (61 cm). Water them 2 to 3 times a week by misting them in the spring and summer, and about once a week in the fall and winter.

**Tillandsia ionantha**
This is one of the major silver -leaved tillandsias; "ionantha" means "violet colored" in Latin. When it flowers a long, thin shoot emerges from the crown and bears bright purple blossoms. At the same time the leaves turn bright red and yellow really putting on a show. There are many varieties that comes in a range of sizes. Water them once or twice a week by misting them thoroughly.

**Tillandsia ionantha Fuego**
This is a type of Tillandsia ionantha that changes into a bright color as it grows. "Fuego," which means "fire" or "blaze" in Spanish, is also the name of a volcano in Guatemala; the plant is called this because the leaves turn a bright red when the plant flowers. The photo shows a clump of these plants. The more

plants there are in a clump, the more showy the flowers and leaves. Water them once or twice a week by misting them thoroughly.

### Tillandsia caput-medusae

"Caput-medusae" comes from the Greek mythological creature Medusa, who has writhing snakes as hair. These twisting, contorted leaves that rise from the vase -shaped bottom are thought to resemble Medusa's hair. Because it's a silver-leaf type of tillandsia, the leaves are covered with trichomes. Water them two to three times a week by misting them very well, then make sure to dry out the roots thoroughly before returning them to the container.

### Tillandsia funckiana

Another well known type of the silver leaf tillandsias. The thin, needle-like leaves grow from the base and up the stems. Small suckers or plants form between the leaves and stems. Although it looks like an evergreen tree branch, the leaves are quite soft to the touch. Once a plant has grown to about 4 inches (10 cm) in height, large bright red flowers may bloom. Water them two to three times a week by misting them very well. They are very susceptible to winter cold, so be sure to keep the temperature of their environment above 50 degrees F (10 degrees C).

### Tillandsia useneoides (Spanish moss)

One of the best known tillandsias, with curly, hair-like hangling silver leaves. In its native habitat it grows

by hanging from trees, so in order to grow this you should hang it from something most of the time. Once it has grown about 12 to 16 inches (30 to 50 cm) long, it may have tiny flowers. Water them two to three times a week by misting them very well, then dry them by hanging them up in an airy place.

### Tillandsia heteromorpha

A rare type of silver leaf tillandsia. Although it is similar to Tillandsia funckiana, this has longer leaves that open up to the outside. If it grows well, the stem becomes elongated, and side shoots or suckers form between the leaves and the stem. The flowering period is very short, but the pink bracts and the purple flowers form a beautiful color gradation. Water them once or twice a week by misting them thoroughly.

### Tillandsia paraceamajor

This is a rather unusual silver leaf tillandsia. Thick, twisty leaves with lots of movement grow out of an elongated stem. The leaves are covered with a lot of trichomes, so that they look very pale. If it grows well and the stem becomes longer, a lot of suckers or sideshoots form. You can also grow the plants in large clumps. Water them once or twice a week by misting them thoroughly.

### Racomitrium japonicum (sunagoke moss)

Sunagoke moss (which means "sand moss") looks like a group of tiny stars massed together. It is a moss that is very resistant to drought and dry conditions relatively speaking. Because it grows even in full sunlight, it is a widely seen moss in Japan. Although it grows upwards, the stems stop at around 1⅓ to 2 inches (1–5 cm) in height and stop growing. This sturdy moss only needs to be watered about once

every two weeks, or whenever the surface looks dry.

### Fissidens japonicus Doz. et Molk

Called "phoenix moss" in Japan; the name comes from the wing-like appearance of the stems and leaves which spread to the side as they grow. This moss mainly grows in mountainous areas or in between rocks along a stream. Since it grows in water as well as soil, it is also used as an aquarium plant and is sold at tropical fish shops. Water it well by misting it frequently so that the surface never dries out.

### Rhodobryum giganteum (rose moss)

This moss is called "big umbrella moss" in Japan, because the large open leaves look like umbrellas. It is one of the bigger moss varieties, with fresh green leaves that shimmer when they are fully watered and is one of the most beautiful Japanese moss varieties. Since they have relatively long roots, they need to be planted with care so as not to damage the roots. Water them about once every two weeks by misting them thoroughly.

### Pogonatum cirratum

Grows wild in western regions of Japan. In Japanese this moss is called "Hohrai pine moss," because its upright stems with their thin, needle-like leaves look like pine trees. (Hohrai is the name of a sacred mountain in China which appears in classic literature and art.) It propagates by sending out spores from thin sporytes that grow from the stems. Water it about once a week by misting it well with a spray bottle. It doesn't withstand drought

and dryness well, so keep it in a sealed, humid environment and adjust the ambient temperature so that it doesn't get "cooked" inside the container.

### Conocephalum conicum (snakeskin liverwort)

This moss grows by spreading itself along the ground and has large, flat leaves. In Japanese it's called "snake moss" because the leaves look like the scales on a snake. The undersides of the leaves are covered with many thin, white roots which cling fast to whatever surface it is on. Water this moss about once every two weeks by misting it thoroughly with a spray bottle.

### Leucobryum juniperoidum (smaller white moss)

This is a very popular moss in Japan and sold in most garden and home centers. Its common name in Japanese is "mountain moss," although that name is often used for two other types of mosses. It is a very drought-resistant moss relatively speaking, and is used for bonsai as well as kokedama (moss balls). Depending on what other mosses it is combine with, it's better to seal the container you plant it in. Water about once every two weeks by misting it thoroughly with a spray bottle.

Succulents ar
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**Callisia repens**
**(creeping inchplant)**
Spring-fall type
Native to Central and South America, this succulent is also called "training dew plant" in Japanese. The small, leaves are layered like rose petals and when as they grow they become red. Water sparingly, about once every two weeks, and keep on the dry side. It spreads in all directions as it grows, so if it outgrows its container you will need to replant it.

**Crassula portulacea f. monstrosa**
**(jade plant)**
Spring-fall type
The cylindrical green leaves of this succulent have a shiny, smooth surface and the tips are red and indented. As the plant grows, the lower leaves fall off, exposing the bumpy trunk-like stem, so that it looks like a strange miniature alien tree, which is why a common name for it in Japanese is space tree. Water about once every two weeks in general, whenever the soil is dry. Water sparingly in the winter.

**Echeveria secunda**
Spring-fall type
The "secunda" part of this echiveria's name means that the stems and roots spread out flat. As that indicates, the stems of this unusual looking plant connect to each other in a ribbon-like pattern

as it grows. The leaves turn red between the fall and spring and in the spring and summer small flowers may bloom. Water it once a week during its growing period and when it is dormant scale it down to about once every two weeks.

### Lithops lesliei (stone plants)

Winter type

With pairs of large, swollen leaves stuck together, this lithops, or stone plant, has a cute look. It flowers in the fall and sheds its outer layer in winter to spring. If you overwater it while it's shedding, the new shoots may shed too, so watch out for that. You can divide the clumps when you repot. Water about every two weeks, when the soil is dry.

### Haworthia obtusa

Spring-fall type

The plump, round leaves and the translucent tips that sparkle in light characterize this succulent. The Japanese name for it means dew stone. Avoid putting it in direct sunlight but choose a bright, well-lit location indoors for it. If there isn't enough light it may become leggy, as the stems grow long when the plant reaches for the light. Water about once a week, when the soil is dry. In the winter, check the plant and water even less.

### Haworthia pilifera

Spring-fall type

Of the many varieties of haworthia piliferas, this one stands out for its leaves that are covered with tiny thin hairs. Since it forms clumps by growing chicks or offsets from its base, you can propagate it easily by dividing the clumps. You can also

take leaf cuttings, which root easily. Water about once every two weeks, when the soil is dry, and hold back on watering even more in the winter.

### Pachyphytum oviferum (moonstones)

Spring-fall type

This succulent's plump, round leaves look as if they have been dusted with a white powder. In Japanese it is called a "star beauty." As it grows upwards, sometimes the stems become unable to bear the weight of the leaves, so trim the stems near the base diligently to encourage the plant to grow low and sideways. In the fall, the leaves take on a pale pink color. Water about once every two weeks and keep it on the dry side.

### Kalanchoe tomentosa (panda plant, pussy ears, chocolate soldiers)

Spring-fall type

The Japanese name for this kalanchoe is "moon rabbit ears" because the leaves are covered with fine, white hairs. The oval shaped leaves have spiky ends, which are colored chocolate brown. Although it's a succulent that likes bright light, even sunlight, it should be placed out of direct sun. Water about once every two weeks when the soil is dry, and try not to water it much at all in the winter.

**Mammillaria martinezii**
A cactus that is characterized by its rounded shape that is covered with white spikes. It produces chicks or offsets from the base and in the winter it may produce small pink flowers. It prefers a sunny location, so give it plenty of sunlight during the day such as on a windowsill, and water it sparingly, about once every two weeks.

**Huernia brevirostris**
Called "mosquito horns" in Japanese, the thin, stick-like stems and branches of this cactus are covered with prickly spines. Although it is usually bright green in color, in the winter it changes to a reddish purple. In the summer, yellow star-shaped flowers blooms around the base of the plant. Put this in an airy location during the summer and water about three times a month.

**Echinocereus rigidissimus (rainbow cactus)**
Called "purple sun" in Japanese, this cactus is characterized by its oval shape that's a bit bigger at the top and its reddish-purple color. In early spring large, pink flowers bloom, and chicks or offsets form around the bottom. It does well in sunlight. Water about three times a month and in the winter water very sparingly, if at all.

**Selaginella remotifolia**
Although this is called kurama moss in Japan, this plant is actually an evergreen fern. It grows in clusters in the wild in shady,

humid spots such as in the shade of rocks, rather like mosses. The long, twisting stems with small rice grain shaped leaves spread along the ground. As with mosses, water about once every two weeks by misting it well. Keep in a sealed container to maintain humidity.

### Euphorbia horrida (African milk barrel)

Spring-summer type

Although its spikes make it look like a cactus, this is a succulent. The "horrida" part of its botanical name means that it has many spines, but the parts that look like spines are actually the flower bracts left over after the flowers have dropped off, that remain on the plant for a long time afterwards. During the spring to summer growing season, water it whenever the soil is dry. In the winter, water sparingly.

### Echinocereus pentalophus cv. momotarou (ladyfinger cactus)

This is a variety of Echinocereus pentalophus called Momotaro, or Peach Boy, a figure from Japanese folklore. It's a cactus hybrid with no spines, and small white areole without spines. In the spring it blooms with large pink flowers. Make sure the container it's in has good ventilation and place in an airy location during the summer. Water about three times a month.

### Gymnocalycium horridispinum

The "horridispinum" part of its botanical name means "scary spines," and indeed this cactus has some long, sharp spines growing out randomly. In Japanese it's called a "dinosaur ball." In contrast

to its intimidating appearance, its flowers are large and bright pink and many people consider it one of the most beautiful blooming cacti. Water it once ever two to three weeks, and water sparingly in the winter.

**Lycopodium Brassii Little John**

A fern that is native to tropical forests and other humid locations, that is characterized by its twisting, drooping growing habit. It does well in humid growing conditions like the ones mosses prefer, so it works well in terrariums. Water every two to three weeks by misting it well. Water even less than that in the winter.

“A world within glass.

How is it possible to recreate the landscape you envision in a small space? How do you use dried plants and materials, and how do you decorate with various objects? Terrariums are created by expanding the world that exists within your own unique imagination.

I feel that the current popularity of terrariums has grown along with the increasing interest in using slow growing, low-maintenance plants such as succulents, air plants and mosses in interiors. Whenever I make a new terrarium, I start by deciding on the container, and then the plants, in that order. Looking for the right container is so much fun, and once I have the right container, I can envision the finished landscape. Containers made for terrariums aren't the only ones you can use. Try using glass jars meant for kitchen use, any glass bottle you have on hand and so on, and arrange your plants in them. When a plant is enclosed in clear glass, you may find that it looks quite different. Create your own original terrariums using driftwood, decorative stones, dried flowers and so on and make sure the environment is suitable for the plants you've chosen. I hope you'll enjoy creating your own small worlds.”

— Sueko Katsuji

**Buriki no Zyoro**
**3-6-15 Jiyugaoka, Meguro-ku, Tokyo**
**Hours: 10:00–19:00 (open all year)**
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“Terrariums are becoming very popular recently as a way of easily enjoying plants indoors. In our store, we are carrying more terrariums as well. Ready-made terrariums sold in stores are beautiful, but probably the best way to enjoy terrariums is to gather the materials you like, and arrange them yourself within a small glassed-in space.

The things you put into a terrarium will vary depending on what kinds of plants you choose for it. It's a good idea to collect a stash of nuts, seashells, fabric or leather scraps, rusty metal parts and nails and so on, and put them in a pretty container, to use as materials for your terrariums as well as a source of inspiration.

For this book, we have created several terrariums combining air plants and dried flowers. We think they are much more colorful than what you'd expect from terrariums. Air plants are easy to maintain too. We hope you'll try making your own terrariums using these plants."

— Kazuto Kihara

“Tokyo Fantastic Omotesando is a flower boutique with the concept, ‘Let’s Enjoy Japan.’ I (Tida Flower) have a lot of fun designing special, one-of-a-kind flower arrangements every day for the store. My central theme these days is to recreate the emotions we felt when we gathered wildflowers as children; that feeling of capturing the beauty and strength of flowers that grow in their native habitat, and bringing that life force indoors. So the designs I create exist in a natural world, one that intersects with natural forest land.

Terrariums, where you can create a small, concentrated version of natural landscapes, are highly recommended as objects to brighten your home. In our store, we also make ‘flower bottles,’ which are glass medicine containers filled with dried flowers.

I hope you will envision small worlds that bring joy to your heart every day as you make your own small original creations.”

— Motoko Suzuki (Tida Flower)

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“Terrariums are a way to enjoy living plants in glass containers, but we hope that by including miniatures, you will be inspired to imagine a whole story going on within that small space. You can have so much fun arranging the little objects you’ve assembled, stacking them, hanging them and so on to decorate your little universe. In addition, you can also enjoy viewing it from various angles, and discovering the different landscapes that reveal themselves. That’s the fun of a terrarium. Try looking at it from straight above, or from the side. There’s a whole other dimension to enjoying terrariums that sets them apart from ordinary plants in pots.

Terrariums, perhaps more than any other interior arrangements, are the most suited to blending with your existing decor. But of course, they contain living plants. Don't forget that you need to take care of them. If you choose the right place for your terrarium that suits the environment the plants need, maintaining them shouldn't be too hard. I hope you'll create your own 'one of a kind' miniature gardens, that you can't resist peeking into. I couldn't be happier if the projects in this book will inspire you to use everyday glass containers to easily incorporate living plants into your life."

— Yuya Ohyama

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Periplus Editions (HK) Ltd.

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*Staff (Original Japanese Edition)*
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**Copy editing** Gento Shorin Ltd.
**Editor** Yoshiaki Fukuda
**Publisher** Akira Naito
**Published by** Boutique-sha Co.
English Translation © 2021 by Periplus Editions (HK) Ltd.
Translated from Japanese by Makiko Itoh

ISBN 978-0-8048-5407-8; ISBN 978-1-4629-2242-0 (ebook)

Distributed by
**North America, Latin America & Europe**
Tuttle Publishing
364 Innovation Drive, North Clarendon
VT 05759-9436 U.S.A.
Tel: 1 (802) 773-8930
Fax: 1 (802) 773-6993
info@tuttlepublishing.com
www.tuttlepublishing.com

**Asia Pacific**
Berkeley Books Pte. Ltd.
3 Kallang Sector, #04-01
Singapore 349278
Tel: (65) 67412178
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inquiries@periplus.com.sg
www.tuttlepublishing.com

Printed in Malaysia 2101TO
23 22 21 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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